suit the purpose best; or as the church may feel. The Berlin church was disowned because they fellowshiped Holsinger; the Ashland city church was distellowshiped for the same reason, by a committee of adjoining elders and a minority of the the church. Other churches were similarly served for a like reason. But brother Beer and his church have communed with Holsinger, and otherwise religiously associated with him; he was chairman of the Ashland convention, and has, in fact, been one of the leading spirits of the progressive movement from first to last, and yet he is suffered to remain in the German Baptist church. There are a number of churches and members, east and west who are in the same condition. Consistency? It is a word not fonnd in their vocabulary. Had they carried out their policy in the Fairview-Beer case, at the Aanold's Grove conference and elsewhere, there would not now be any division in their church. Our opinion is that it is all simply owing to circumstances; the whims of the committee. They follow no certain rule, no established precedent, and adhere to no principle. One policy in Northeastern Ohio, another in Southern Ohio, and still another in Eastern Pennsylvania, Virginia and Illinois.

We learn from the Hagerstown, Md., daily *Globe*, of the 11th instant, that brother J. W. Smouse is holding meetings in the Mt. Lena Union church, Beaver Creek district. Hope he will be successful in doing good.

The above are solid facts, free from any biased feeling. They are sad facts, which one must regret to meditate upon, but they are facts nevertheless.

Correspondence.

Brother Brown's Mission to Covington.

Since brother Holsinger has told the readers of the EVANGELIST that I went to Covington, O., to preach and work in the Master's vineyard, I will give a short account of the trip, and what was done. I failed to make connection at Urbana and missed the first appointment; but brother Ullery was equal to the occasion, and procured the services of Elder Warbington, of the Christian church, to fill the place, and according to general report I preached an excellent sermon by *proxy*.

Arrived late at night of Dec. 1st, and was met at the depot by brother Ullery, and cared for with much brotherly kindness. Next morning we very naturally had many inquiries to make as to the outlook for the Brethren cause. We soon learned that all the Annual Meeting fences were well up and none but those who were deeply grounded in the faith of a free gospel would be likely to leap over. Brother and sister Ullery and sister Moist were the only members we had out of which to organize a church, but it was thought there were enough of creed-sick German Baptists, that we might possibly organize with ten or twelve members. By the time we got about the foregoing information the bell rang at the Baptist church, where our meetings were to be held. We went to the place, determined by the grace of God, to do what we could for the cause of truth. Continued the meeting during the week. On Friday, Dec. 7th, we met for the purpose of organizing. We did nothing in secret, but publicly announced the object of the meeting, and invited all to attend who wished to do so. We opened the meeting in regular order, and then tried to preach from two texts, Luke 12:51: "Suppose ye that I came to give peace on earth? I tell ye nay; but rather division." From this text I tried to show that there is, always has been, and always will be, an irrepressible conflict between right and wrong, and that this declaration of Christ will receive its final fulfillment at the eternal judgment. Our other text was Rom. 16:17: "Now I beseech you brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences, contrary to the doctrine," &c. From this we tried to show that the present divisions in the Dunkard fraternity were caused by the introduction of human mandates; that the *Doctrine is all in the Gospel*, and that all other requirements as tests of Christian fellowship, were contrary to the doctrine; hence division from them was a necessity, and the responsibility rests with those who introduced them.

We next tried to define the Brethren's view of church government, and lastly, who in the present case were proper persons to enter into or unite to form the pending organization, and finally said: "All who are in favor of, and are now ready to enter into fellowship as the Covington Brethren church, rise to your feet." Fourteen stood up until their names were enrolled. Brother R. E. C. Rench was then elected clerk, and brother Christian Dunkel, treasurer; here the selection of officers was rested for the present. On Saturday evening when the invitation was given, three more stood up, and on Sunday evening, one more, making 18 in all up to this time.

Here we left the work in the hands of the Brethren, and took our departure for home on Monday morning, 10th inst. Brother E. Horn, who happened to drop in on business, agreed to preach on Monday evening, and perhaps longer, for we all felt that the meetings should not close yet. And we hope to hear of further increase.

Covington is a town of about two thousand inhabitants, located on the east bank of the Stillwater river, in the renowned "Miami Valley." The country is one of the best we ever saw. Brother Dunkel kindly took us out into the country about two miles, to the residence of one of our former co laborers, brother J. I. Cover, editor of the *Vindicator*; but to ur regret, brother Joseph was not at home. So we did not have the pleasure of seeing him. On the way back we called with Elder Samuel Murray, and found him at home. Had a very pleasant interview. Brother Murray's whole family seemed to almost overflow with kindness. This is characteristic of all Christian homes. Brother Murray is an elder in what is known as the Old German Baptist church.

On Saturday, 9th, brother Ullery took us to the home of brother Mikesell, near Pleasant Hill. This brother has been much afflicted in body during the past summer, and is still for the most part confined to his home. He was much cheered up by our call. "I was sick and ye visited me." Oh, brethren, after all, that system of religion which makes the best men and women, which does most for the good of mankind, the salvation of souls, and the glory of God, is the best, and will fare the best in the end.

On the return we drove through the appropriately named village of Pleasant Hill. Saw the outside of the Brethren's meeting house; it looked very neat, comfortable and inviting. We also saw the German Baptist meeting house, and noticed that they were putting on a new belfry, and actually saw the *bell* in it. To see a thing so much at variance with the "usages," and in the Miami Valley at that, seemed to us just a little bit queer. We had the pleasure of calling with brother H. J. Kurtz several times while in Covington. Here we saw the *Gospel Messenger*, the German Baptist organ, and read Brother Quinter's account of his visit to N. E. Ohio, and were not a little amused at the way in which he did not forget to say that "P. J. Brown was formerly the elder of the Mohican church, that all his co-laborers in the ministry went with the Progressives; but that the church is still in good working order," or words to that effect. We thought it was all a little flimsy, and bore the impress of second-hand ware; but we will not follow suit in trying to bolster up our cause by belittling that of others.

In conclusion we feel to thank the Covington Brethren for their great kindness, and commit them to the grace of God, and the prayers of the Brotherhood, with hopes that a bright future awaits them. P. J. BROWN.

Congress, O., Dec. 12th.

The Western Convention.

According to announcement through our EVANGELIST, the Brethren met in the Silver Creek church at the house of brother Samuel Anglemyers, Dec. 6th. After devotional exercises A. G. Black was chosen moderator and A. J. Hixson, secretary. There seemed to be a misunderstanding as to the time of meeting, owing to the different dates given, in notice for meeting.

The first day was spent mostly in exchanging thoughts upon the present state of the church, and the best methods of meeting the wants of unorganized members throughout the several churches of the German Baptist organization. This seemed to claim the first attention.

Brother Daniel Harader, of Cowley Co., led off in presenting the condition in which many members were placed, under annual meeting rulings. Though heartily in sympathy with the Brethren's position, their surroundings were such that they could see no ray of hope for them, unless some one came to their relief. Hence they were standing nominally in the German Baptist ranks. This called forth several responses from the Brethren, corroborating the same truth. There was but one sentiment prevailing the entire meeting. Such unanimity we scarcely ever witnessed. But one prayer was uttered by all: "That that wisdom which cometh down from above, might guide and direct the reformatory movement in which we were engaged, to its ultimate triumph through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

In accord with the expressed sentiments A. J. Hixson moved "That we put immediately into the field two efficient evangelists for Kansas, and Missouri, and pledge ourselves to support them in their work."

After considerable discussion touching the proposition, the meeting adjourned to meet Friday morning, Dec. 7th at 9 o'clock, A. M.

SECOND DAY.

After devtoional exercises business was resumed by electing Christ. Harader permanent moderator, and continuing A. J. Hixson clerk. It was moved by Jacob W. Beer, that pastors of the church be instructed to urge it upon all the local churches of the Brethren to contribute liberally toward the support of the evangelists, according to 1 Cor. 16: 1, 2, and that the contributions be forwarded quarterly to the treasurer and properly receipted for by the same.

This resolution called forth from Black, Hendricks, Harader and others animated speeches touching consecration, not only of self, but of all our interests and means to the Lord. Their remarks were listended to with interest and elicited a hearty amen from all.

On motion of A. J. Hixson, a treasurer, who shall also be corresponding secretary, was chosen to secure contributions from the churches, and to keep a record of the same, and to pay them out on the requisitions of the evangelists, and report the same through the BRETHREN'S EVANGELIST, quarterly.

On motion of A. P. Gibson, it was agreed that all calls for evangelistic work should be made through the corresponding secretary, who should decide the order in which, and by whom they should be filled.

On motion of A. G. Black it was decided that the evangelists and corresponding secretary should constitute a committee for calling future conventions, when, in their judgment it is deemed necessary. After which nominations were made for evangelists. Several names were presented and ballotted for, with the following result, A. J. Hixson and W. J. H. Bauman principals, A. P. Gibson, and Jac. W. Beer, alternates.

F. C. Shaper of Mulvane, Sumner county, Kans., was unanimously chosen treasurer and corresponding secretary.

Thus closed the work of our first convention in the west. The object as stated in the call was to organize our working force. We feel that we now understand one another, and will be able better to work in concert. After carrying for so long a time the customs, usages and traditions of men, we find it no easy task to lay them all aside, and at once free ourselves, and step out into the perfect liberty of the gospel of Jesus Christ. May our every prayer be, "Search me, God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

A. J. HIXSON.

Montana, Kans.

COLLEGE NOTES.

The trustees did not have a meeting on the 13th. After some consultation, it was thought that it was not necessary. Brother Buckwalter of Orrville, Wayne county, Ohio, was present for the meeting, but visited the school instead, and expressed himself well pleased with its workings.

The enrollment this term exceeds that of last by about twenty.

The *College Record* for December is out.

Brother W. C. Parry, one of the Juniors was chosen to the ministry in the Ashland City church at their last council meeting.

If all the German Baptist brethren were as true Christians as Simon Garber, who is now attending school here, there would be no need of two branches to the church.

The faculty were obliged to give a couple of young men a strong hint that the room they occupied was more desirable than their company. We are not proud of this, of course, but the management wish it to be understood that the *animus* must improve.

The societies are both doing good work, and I will say nothing futher, lest I should make unjust discrimination.

The Sunday evening prayer meeting at the Chapel is growing in interest, and it will soon be very popular with the students.

Prof. Mykrantz' advanced grammar class is now giving its attention to Shakespeare's Hamlet.

In the commercial department, Prof. Brumbaugh is now introducing the students to actual business. It is reported that he does not allow the interest to flag.

REPORTER.

From Brother Bashor.

The good work still goes on among us here. Three were baptized at our regular meeting last Sunday, at this place, and at Troutville, at night, one more came out. Others are near the kingdom. Though the conservatives had meetings within one and a half miles of us on Sunday night, and it was said by some of them that our congregation would be very small, we had the "biggest crowd" of the season. Our house was literally packed with people, and many could not get in. We have full houses everywhere, and are getting more "irons in the fire" than I can possibly hammer. Wish there were two or three of us. Health is good. Hutchison of Missouri is doing the preaching for the conservatives.

S. H. BASHOR.

Botetourt Springs, Va., Dec. 11.

South Bend Indiana.

On Friday, the 30th of November, began meetings in the South Bend district Indiana. As the German Baptists refused to open the meeting-house we occupied the school-house. We had large congregations, said to be the largest known for years, and the very fact that the German Baptists closed their house was worth several sermons to us. Continued our meetings at the school house until Friday the 7th inst when we began preaching at the Disciple house in South Bend. At this point the congregation was very large. Meetings continued until Monday evening, the 10th, and although there were no accessious by baptism, good impressious were made, and there were several transfers from the German Baptists. On Wednesday the 12th the brethren and sisters met at the house of brother D. C. Ullery, and a Brethren's church was organized. Brother D. C. Ullery was advanced to the Eldership. And now it is a fixed fact that there is a Brethren church at South Bend, Ind. Those of our Brethren who may see proper to visit this church will find them warm hearted and zealous. Our veteran brother Ullery with his aimiable wife are shining lights in the Brethren church, and their noble example should be an inducement to the brethren everywhere to do all they can for the upbuilding of the Master's cause. Brother Ullery says to me: "Brother John, I am like Moses in one respect, somewhat slow of speech. I can care for the tender lambs after they are brought in. I am getting along in age, and I feel that I need help. I have plenty of this world's goods, and I am willing to spend a good share of it in the service of the Master. I have a nice property here in the suburbs of the city, that is worth not less than fifteen hundred dollars. If you will come here and work with me for the good of the cause I'll give you a clear title to the property." Through the suggestion of sister Ullery the property was deeded to my wife. So now sister Fitzgerald is the owner of a handsome property in the city of South Bend, and it is a fixed fact that we will locate here in the spring, the Lord willing. Everything is looking up. The German Baptists locking their house against the Brethren, so enthused the people that we have already the substantials promised for the erection of a new church house. I am now in company with brother Jacob Cripe. Began meeting yesterday evening, in the Portage Congregation, in the Oak Grove meeting-house. This church I am informed is about one hundred strong, and although they have not yet been organized will stand fifty per cent with the Brethren. The out-look is good. More anon.

J. W. FITZGERALD,

Dec. 14.

From J. H. Worst.

Closed meetings in South Waterloo church, Dec. 16th, after ten days preaching. Had full to crowded houses, and the best of order. Immediate results, two by baptism and five by relation, making seven in all. Two of elder E. K. B's sons were among the number that united by relation, and Ephriam, son of elder Cyrus Hoover, of Wayne county, O., was one of the baptized.

Brother James Quinter commenced meetings in same church one evening later than I began and closed one evening earlier. None were expelled that we heard of.

J. H. WORST.

Dedication at Ainger, Ohio.

Please say to the people that the church that is being built by the Brethren of the Silver Creek congregation, Williams county, Ohio, is to be dedicaed Dec. 25th, Christmas day, at 10 o'clock A. M.

A. K. BROWN.

Ainger, Ohio. Dec. 11.

Good News From Mineral Point.

We are having some very good meetings in our church at this time. Nine have already been received into the church, and we have ten applicants for to day. Brother Wilt is doing the preaching.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.

Mineral Point, Pa.

From Brother N. C. Workman.

I have been sick for near four months; began to recover and was getting along finely when I took the erysipelas in one of my legs, setting me back farther than ever, and I am at this writing, December 8th almost as helpless as a child. Have suffered much intense pain. I ask my friends not to stop writing to me because their letters are not answered. I am too weak to write. I beg an interest in the prayers of all the dear brethren and sisters.

N. C. WORKMAN.

Osceola, Mo.

THE BRETHREN'S ANNUAL FOR 1884.

Contains biographical sketches and portraits of Elders John H. Umsted and Frederick P. Loehr, a chronological department of the Brethren Church and of the German Baptist and Old Order churches, besides much other useful and interesting reading matter.

Price 20 cents, or $2.00 per dozen. Order soon. Address H. R. Holsinger and Co., Ashland, Ohio.